

ECHO — Ecological Health Organization Inc.

August 22, 1999

Dockets Management Branch
The Food & Drug Administration
Department of Health & Human Services Rm 1-23
12420 Parklawn Dr.
Rockville, MD 20857

Docket Number: 99P-1340/CP 1

Dear Sir or Madam,

As President of the Ecological Health Organization, Inc. (ECHO), I am writing in support of Docket # 99P-1340/CP 1. ECHO is a statewide organization for people with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity and we are very much aware of the relationship between chemicals in the environment and our health. People with MCS react to low levels of chemical exposures, which includes those that make up fragrances in cosmetics.

Our reactions to fragrances can vary from mild to severe symptoms such as asthma, dizziness, fatigue, muscle /joint pains, irritated eyes, ears, nose & throat, headaches, sleep disorders, poor concentration and memory loss. Needless to say, fragrances have impacted the lives of our members in a number of different ways. Many are unable to participate in normal activities such as employment, education programs, church services, shopping, or leisure time events.

As there is currently no cure for MCS and avoidance is the primary mode of treatment, we have had to make major & difficult life style changes. In our quest for accommodations for a fragrance-free indoor air quality environment we find that although people complain of headaches, nauseous or dizziness when around someone with a strong fragrance, they are not consciously aware of the effects of perfume/ fragrances on their health. Under the guise of "trade secrets many of the cosmetic corporations have been remiss in providing information to the public on the chemical contents of their products. This petition shows that perfumes can contain toxic ingredients and is potentially a public health problem invading our right to a safe and healthy environment

We advocate for "the right to know" the contents of all the components of fragrance, perfumes, and cosmetics sold for use by humans etc. and urge all such products be tested and analyzed for effects on the endocrine, respiratory, and neurological systems of humans. Therefore, ECHO as advocates for the promotion of the health and welfare of the chemically injured and the general population, strongly supports Docket #99P-1340/CP 1 to be in compliance with Reg. 21 CFR 740.10.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Wysocki
President

Mission: *To safeguard the health and well-being
of the environment and its inhabitants.*

99P-1340

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